

### REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 15, 2004. Claims 1 to 6, 8, 9, and 14 to 16 are in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 10 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 8, and 9 have been amended, and new Claims 14 to 16 have been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 8 and 9.

Claims 1 to 6, 10 and 13 were rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1 to 19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,677,183 (Sakaguchi) in view of Japan 11-317509 (JP '509). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a removing step of, after the separation step, removing a portion of the separation layer remaining on the semiconductor film.

Neither the claims of Sakaguchi nor JP '509, either alone or in combination, is seen to disclose at least the foregoing feature.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

### REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRIORITY

Applicants have not yet received an acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy of the Japanese application from which the subject application claims priority. The certified copy was submitted on August 12, 2002. A copy of the Submission of Priority Document and a copy of the stamped postcard receipt are attached hereto.

In view of the foregoing submissions, it is respectfully submitted that a certified copy of the Japanese priority document has been duly filed in the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office to perfect Applicants' claim to priority, and acknowledgment is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR INITIALED FORMS PTO-1449

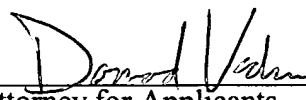
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the substitute Form PTO-1440 which accompanied the Letter dated December 20, 2004, and an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 which accompanied the Information Disclosure Statement dated February 1, 2005.

CONCLUSION

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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